

INCOMING TELEGRAM : Department of State

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FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State
NO: 252, AUGUST 2, 6

ACTION DEPARTMENT 252, INFORMATION BERLIN 15, LONDON 52,
MOSCOW 36, PARIS 63.

PARIS FOR KOHLER.

SENATOR FULBRIGHT'S TELEVISION COMMENTS ON BERLIN HAVE AROUSED
SOMWHAT BELATED YET NONTHELESS UNUSUALLY CRITICAL PRESS
AND OTHER COMMENT IN FEDERAL REPUBLIC. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
AND POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS HAVE BEEN PARTICULARLY SCATHING
IN THEIR REJECTION OF HIS PROPOSAL THAT CONCESSION SHOULD
BE MADE TO RUSSIANS ON REFUGEE PROBLEM. ADDED TO CONSTERNATION
AND CHAGRIN WITH WHICH FULBRIGHT'S REMARKS WERE RECEIVED
WAS CERTAIN AMOUNT OF UNEASINESS STEMMING FROM FULBRIGHT'S
PROMINENT POSITION AND HIS ASSUMED INFLUENCE UPON AMERICAN
GOVERNMENT POLICIES. ONE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL SAID
THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES THOUGHT THAT THIS REPRESENTED
GREATEST MISTAKE YET MADE BY WESTERN LEADER DURING CURRENT
CRISIS OVER BERLIN.

AS FOR OTHER SUGGESTIONS MADE BY FULBRIGHT, E.G. DISENGAGEMENT,
NO NUCLEAR ARMS FOR BUNDEWEHR, LARGE SCALE CONFERENCE,
FREE-CITY STATUS FOR BERLIN, THERE WAS MUCH LESS COMMITMENT
THOUGH ALL THESE PROPOSALS ARE PRESUMABLY ANATHEMA TO
GERMAN GOVERNMENT. OTHER POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS, NENDE
AND BRANDT, CONFINED THEMSELVES TO SHARP REJECTIONS OF ANY
MEASURE WHICH WOULD ADVERSELY AFFECT REFUGEE FLOW OR FREE
MOVEMENT BETWEEN DIVISIONS OF GERMANY.

2 AIRGRAM FOLLOWS.

DOWLING

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ACTION

ASSIGNED TO

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PARIS

DATE OF

4-6-61

DIRECTIONS

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